

XLIX.—*Notes on some New-Zealand Fishes.*

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Kathetostoma monopterygium.

Two species are, I believe, confused under this name in my 'Catalogue of the Fishes of New Zealand' (1872), which I think can thus be distinguished:—

*Kathetostoma monopterygium.**Uranoscopus maculatus*, J. R. Forster.*Anema monopterygium*, Günther, Cat. Brit. Mus. ii. p. 230.

D. 20. A. 18.

Length $3\frac{3}{4}$ times that of the head, which is 12 times the diameter of the eye; interorbital space $2\frac{3}{4}$ times the diameter of the eye. No filament in the mouth. Brownish olivaceous above, with numerous small, often indistinct, pale spots on the back, which are larger on the sides; pectoral fins not margined with white, and the inside mottled with olivaceous and brown; caudal reddish, marbled with olivaceous brown. Length 16–24 inches.

The granulation of the cranial plates is of quite a different character to that of the next species, and is much more obscure. The pores on the inferior margin of the præoperculum are in proportion much larger; and the villi on the lips, especially the upper, are more developed. The lateral line also is far more difficult to distinguish.

*Kathetostoma maculosa.**Uranoscopus maculosus*, Solander.*U. maculatus*, Richardson, Voy. Ereb. & Terr., Fishes, p. 54, pl. xxxiii.

D. 18. A. 17.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$ times that of the head, which is 9 times the diameter of the eye; interorbital space twice the diameter of the eye. A filament in the mouth below the tongue. Brown above, with large distinct pale spots on the back and sides; pectoral fins margined with white, and dusky on the inside; caudal whitish, with a broad brown vertical band in the middle, and tipped with reddish. Length 7–11 inches.

The humeral and præorbital spines are sharper and more developed than in the last species, showing that it cannot be the young.

Leptoscopus macropygus, Richardson, l. c. p. 55.

This fish has been found in the Greymouth Lagoon.

Leptoscopus angusticeps, sp. nov.

B. 6. D. 33. A. 40. P. 22. L. lat. 104 (52).

Length nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ times that of the head or $8\frac{1}{4}$ times the height of the body; breadth of the head three fifths of its length; interorbital space less than twice the diameter of the eye; pectorals shorter than the head. Head not cuirassed and without any ridges, covered with skin. Eyes on the upper angles of the head, hardly vertical. Teeth in villiform bands on both jaws, and a few on the palatine bones; vomer apparently smooth. Upper and lower lips with villi. Pale olivaceous grey above, with numerous small dark grey spots which are closer together on the top of the head; below white; a band of silvery from the chin, through the opercles, along the sides below the lateral line to the caudal. Total length 13 inches. Lateral line continuous. No humeral spine.

Hab. Greymouth Lagoon.

In the form of the head and in the position of the eyes this species approaches *Trachinus*, but in other respects it more nearly resembles *Leptoscopus*.

Rhombosolea tapirina, Günther, l. c. iv. p. 459.

The fish that I described under this name in the 'Transactions of the New-Zealand Institute,' v. (1872), p. 268, is evidently a new species, and may be distinguished from *R. tapirina* by the shortness of the cutaneous fold on the upper lip, by the breadth of the interorbital space, by its large and deeply sunken scales, and by its general shape. It may be called *R. retiaria*.

Lately, however, another flat fish has been sent to the Colonial Museum, which answers exactly to Dr. Günther's description of *R. tapirina*, except that the eyes are on the left side instead of on the right. I presume that this is only an individual variation; but the point cannot be settled until other specimens are obtained.

Galaxias grandis, Haast, Trans. N.-Z. Inst. v. p. 278.

I have examined the type of this species sent by Dr. Haast to the Colonial Museum, and can find no character by which it differs from *G. brevipennis*, Günther. This is probably the fish mentioned by Dr. Hector as being "sometimes cast up on the beaches of the great inland lakes of Otago" (Cat. of N.-Z. Fishes, p. 124), and not *Prototroctes oxyrhynchus*, as the latter fish inhabits only rapidly running streams.